

SFUND RECORDS CTR
2051888

SEPTEMBER 27, 1960

E. F. CHAMBERLIN

D. A. LIMERICK

DAMAGE TO PIPELINES IN
RIGHT OF WAY BY CONTRACTOR
ON SAN DIEGO FREEWAY AT
DEL AMO STREET

About 9:30 AM, September 23, the writer received a message from Mr. Al Lund, State Highway Department Engineer, that the grading contractor working on the new San Diego Freeway frontage road at Del Amo Street had struck an unidentified object. The writer immediately drove to the area and found that the contractor's equipment had contacted the pipelines between the Torrance Plant and Shell Oil, Dominguez. Three 4-inch lines with their corrugated iron casings had been caught by the ripper claws on a large bulldozer and the lines were bent and pulled out of position about two feet.

The Shell Oil Pipe Line Department was immediately notified by the writer of the occurrence, and a crew was brought in to uncover the lines to ascertain the full extent of the damage. Work is progressing on this phase of the work at the time of this memorandum.

The writer contacted the contractor, Mr. Earl Brown, and in the ensuing conversation, Mr. Brown said he or his men had no knowledge of any pipelines in the area where the accident occurred. After further checking on this, the writer met and talked with Mr. W. E. Melcher, State Highway Department Resident Engineer on this phase of the freeway project. Mr. Melcher said that, to his knowledge, all pipelines in the vicinity of the accident had been lowered or encased at the time the concrete culvert was built in 1958 for the main roadway of the San Diego freeway, so no check was made on this by the State Highway Engineers or the contractor at this time.

Mr. Earl Brown, contractor, notified his insurance carrier of the accident, and a meeting with the insurance company will be arranged when the total extent of the damage is ascertained.

Mr. Brown was also told that Shell Chemical expects to be reimbursed for all costs due to outage of the pipelines while they are being repaired.

(Original signed by E. F. Chamberlin)

EFC:rb

E. F. Chamberlin

cc - E.S. Martin
J.D. Norton ← Copy To
F.T. Tynstra

TORRANCE
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